

PRE-FIRST DRAFT

REPORT FOR THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE

Office of the Assistant to the Director
(Historical Staff)

3 Oct 1957
Draft by
[REDACTED]

In the five-month period, 30 April to 30 September 1957, the office of the Assistant to the Director has read routinely 15 daily newspapers, 9 Sunday newspapers, 13 weekly magazines, 4 bi-weekly magazines, 3 monthly magazines, and one quarterly magazine, and has clipped from them articles known or thought to be of interest to the Director. Copies of clippings supplied to the Director have been filed in accordance with a reference system worked out by records experts. Copies of clippings referring specifically to CIA personnel and activities have been supplied to the CIA Library for its collection, "CIA in the News." Copies of clippings referring to intelligence activities and interests, whether or not the agency is mentioned, have been supplied to a special study staff of DD/P.

Daily a check is made of radio and television schedules for programs believed to be of interest to the Director; he and his Deputy have been notified in 65 memoranda of such programs; certain of them have been watched; and transcripts of 13 programs have been procured.

STATSPEC

[REDACTED]

The texts of 11 special foreign broadcasts (such, for instance, as Egyptian President Nasir's speech in Alexandria on the anniversary of the nationalization of the Suez Canal) have been distributed to a list of about 90 interested newsmen.

The Director's speech to the Advertising Council, Inc., was copied in suitable form and over 300 copies were distributed to interested newsmen, the wire services, and individuals requesting copies. Additional requests totalling more than 100 copies are awaiting a re-run of the text.

Preliminary drafts or suggested outlines were prepared for the Director for his talk before the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce on May 8; his remarks to the Foreign Service Association on June 20; and his scheduled address to the National Industrial Conference Board on October 24.

10 Current books of general, intelligence, or CIA interest have been read and reviewed.

This office receives notifications from employees when they request permission to contact representatives of publishing houses, press, radio, or television, or when they meet such representatives inadvertently. A catalog of such contacts/ reports is kept by this office, is condensed into a report at intervals, and is available to the Director and such officials as he designates.

Coordination with the Security Office is maintained on situations which either have reached or are likely to reach the newspapers such as auto accidents involving employees, suits in which employees are implicated, and broadcasts or telecasts in which the Agency is mentioned.

A proposed revision of the regulation covering the reporting of media contacts by employees was suggested.

Contact is maintained with the Security Review section of the Department of Defense. In the period under review four speeches or articles which that section referred to CIA have been examined.

The office of the Assistant to the Director arranged fifteen briefings or interviews for newsmen with the Director or knowledgeable members of the Agency staff; it received three requests for information which were deemed unsuitable to grant; it secured requested information for five ~~of~~ inquirers.

A proposed recruitment pamphlet was studied and evaluated at the request of the Office of Personnel.

Of the letters written, the largest number, 16, were in response to requests from newsmen for aid; eight were courtesy letters of thanks for services/ received, congratulations on achievements, etc.; six were written to Enno Hobbing or to

ESQUIRE with respect to our refusal, on policy grounds, to "clear" his article; five concerned the Director's speech in San Francisco; three requests from private citizens for comment on published material were denied; two concerned a proposed television program and a book which might follow.

By far the largest proportion of the memoranda written, 77, were to the Director to alert him to changes in newspaper personnel, inform him of characteristics of men with whom he had appointments, or recommend his action in a particular circumstance. Ten additional memoranda were concerned with the Director's speeches or invitations for him to speak. Publicity for the Agency was involved in 23 of the memoranda; tips and other information received from newsmen were the subject of nine; five memoranda concerned articles in newspapers and magazines and five others, a television program on the Agency. Four memoranda reported/contacts possibly significant of employees with the press, and two transmitted material requested by the White House.

The Historical Staff completed the final draft of its study of the agency during the period of General Smith's directorship. It began the collection of pertinent data on the first four years of Allen W. Dulles's directorship. Records available for this period have been studied, both in headquarters offices, and in the Records Center. The historians have made a series of preliminary studies of the period with respect to personnel changes to determine areas ~~worthy~~ of further ~~consideration~~ interest.

An average of ~~1~~ 10 telephone calls a day on these and other subjects have been handled.